



NORTHERN
RIVERS
JOINT ORGANISATION



Northern Rivers Joint Organisation

Annual Performance Statement 2022-2023



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Acknowledgement of Country

The Northern Rivers Joint Organisation acknowledges the Bundjalung people – the Traditional Custodians of the lands in our region – and pays respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

About this Annual Performance Statement

Like all NSW councils, county councils and joint organisations, the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation (NRJO) is subject to the robust and rigorous integrated planning and reporting requirements set out in the *Local Government Act 1993* and *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*.

Under this framework, the NRJO must prepare and publish on its website an Annual Performance Statement.

As the key point of accountability with its member councils and local Northern Rivers communities, this Annual Performance Statement provides a 'report card' on the NRJO's progress towards achieving/delivering its strategic regional priorities during 2022–2023.

Prepared in accordance with the Integrated Planning & Reporting Guidelines for Local Government in NSW, this Annual Performance Statement also contains a copy of the NRJO's audited financial reports and other required statutory information for the 2022–2023 period.

Message from the Chair

Throughout 2022–23, there was no higher priority for the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation (NRJO) than supporting our member councils and their communities in any way possible as we continued to tread the long road to recovery after the devastating floods of 2022.

We remained steadfast in our stance that a true, multi-level of government response is undoubtedly required to improve the region's flood preparedness along with its resilience in responding to and recovering from floods in the future. To this end, my fellow NRJO Board members and I committed to 3 key actions as part of our newly adopted strategic regional priorities, with the aim of ensuring the:

- projects and programs needed to rebuild our flood impacted communities are implemented by the Northern Rivers Reconstruction Corporation quickly and sustainably
- CSIRO through the Northern Rivers Resilience Initiative delivers a holistic report on flood modelling, catchment management and community resilience so that lasting, meaningful actions can be prioritised
- 65 recommendations handed down by the independent and parliamentary flood inquiries held in 2022 are implemented in full throughout our region.

Given its similar recovery ahead and shared state planning boundaries, we were thrilled to welcome Clarence Valley Council as our newest, fully-fledged voting member in 2022–2023.

With the NRJO's backing, Clarence Valley Council applied to the Minister for Local Government requesting a NSW Government proclamation to change its membership status from an associate, non-voting member. Its addition as our seventh voting member is a significant milestone for both organisations and the region.

For the NRJO especially, bolstering its voting member ranks to enable better regional decision-making and collaboration is a key part of efforts to evolve, mature and improve our effectiveness since being established in 2018.

These efforts to build the NRJO's capacity were also significantly aided by the more than \$1.2 million in Australian and NSW Government funding we secured over the course of the 2022–2023 period to:

- employ a fulltime project manager for 12 months to drive emission reduction initiatives across the region that help accelerate us towards net zero as quickly as possible
- develop a regional business case and strategy for the Northern Rivers Rail Trail's economic development so the whole region can reap its benefits
- work with other joint organisations to develop a systemic approach aimed at preventing, mitigating and better managing natural disaster risks in regional NSW.

Although the Northern Rivers continues to struggle with some of the most serious challenges its ever faced, the NRJO is committed to making sure the opportunity is seized to reimagine our region's future – one that we can all work towards together.

Councillor Sharon Cadwallader
Northern Rivers Joint Organisation Chair

PART 1: ABOUT THE NORTHERN RIVERS JOINT ORGANISATION

Profile

Formed in June 2018, the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation (NRJO) is one of a network of 13 joint organisations established for regional areas by the NSW Government.

Joint organisations are local government entities with legal powers that enable its member councils to work together at a regional level – as well as with state agencies and other organisations – to achieve better planning, economic, infrastructure and service delivery outcomes for their communities.

Like all joint organisations, the NRJO has 3 principal functions enshrined in the *Local Government Act 1993*:

- establish strategic regional priorities and develop strategies and plans for delivering those priorities
- provide regional leadership and advocate for strategic regional priorities
- identify and take up opportunities for inter-governmental co-operation on regional matters.

Seven member councils make up the NRJO – Ballina Shire, Byron Shire, Clarence Valley, Kyogle, Lismore City, Richmond Valley and Tweed Shire councils.

As the peak body for local government in the Northern Rivers, the NRJO is the recognised voice for a region spanning more than 20,000 square kilometres from Tweed Heads in the north to well beyond Grafton in the south and to Woodenbong, Tabulam and Newton Boyd in the west.

Vision

A unified region of well connected, integrated communities affording its people a unique balance of place, lifestyle and opportunity which is known to the nation and the world for its outstanding environmental and scenic values, commitment to sustainability, respect for Aboriginal culture, openness to visitors, entrepreneurial drive, creative and collective spirit and culture, and support for our primary producers.

Governing body

All joint organisations are governed by a board, whose role is to direct and control its affairs in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*.

As required, the NRJO's Board consists of the current mayors of its 7 member councils – who are referred to as 'voting representatives' and each entitled to vote on matters considered at Board meetings.

A chairperson and deputy chairperson are elected by the governing body from amongst its members to hold office for 2 years.

Following the most recent local government elections held on 4 December 2021, a new NRJO Board was constituted:

- Councillor Sharon Cadwallader, Mayor Ballina Shire Council (Chair)
- Councillor Kylie Thomas, Mayor Kyogle Shire Council (Deputy Chair)
- Councillor Michael Lyon, Mayor Byron Shire Council
- Councillor Steve Krieg, Mayor Lismore City Council
- Councillor Robert Mustow, Mayor Richmond Valley Council
- Councillor Chris Cherry, Mayor Tweed Shire Council

Councillor Ian Tiley, Mayor of Clarence Valley Council, joined the NRJO's Board in December 2022 after the *Local Government (Regional Joint Organisations) Proclamation 2018* was amended to include the Clarence Valley local government area within the area of the NRJO.

Ordinary meetings of the NRJO Board are held quarterly, the agendas and minutes of which are publicly available at <https://www.northernriversjo.nsw.gov.au/about-us/meetings>. These meetings are subject to the requirements of the Act.

All Board members are subject to the NRJO's adopted code of conduct and procedures for administering that code, which incorporate the provisions of the model code and model procedures prescribed by the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*.

The operation of and governance principles for the NRJO are guided by its adopted [Charter](#).

Only the chairperson is paid an annual fee for exercising the functions required by this office. The Local Government Remuneration Tribunal set both a minimum and maximum fee, which the governing body can then fix within these limits. In 2022–23, a total of \$9,048 was paid to the councillor who held office as the NRJO's Chair during the reporting period.

Associate members

Per its adopted [Charter](#), 7 associate members also form part of the NRJO:

- The NSW Government, as represented by a nominee of the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment – currently Director, North Coast, Regional NSW
- Rous County Council
- Tenterfield Shire Council
- Scenic Rim Regional Council
- Regional Development Australia – Northern Rivers
- Destination North Coast
- Combined North Coast Rural Industry Consultative Committee and North Coast Agriculture Natural Disaster Advisory Group.

Associate members are referred to as 'non-voting representatives', who may attend but are not entitled to vote at a meeting of the NRJO Board.

Organisational Structure

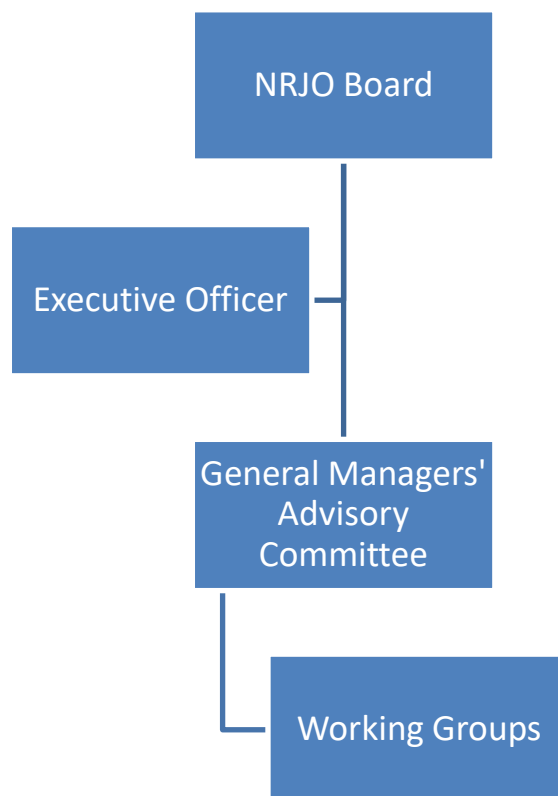


Figure 1: Northern Rivers Joint Organisation Structure 2022–23

Executive Officer

Section 400Y of the *Local Government Act 1993* requires the NRJO to appoint an Executive Officer to:

- conduct its day-to-day management in accordance with its strategic regional priorities and other plans, programs, strategies and policies
- implement, without delay, lawful decisions of its Board.

Following the resignation of the NRJO's part-time Executive Officer in April 2022, the General Manager of associate member Rous County Council was appointed as the interim Executive Officer for a period of up to 12 months.

In December 2022, the NRJO Board appointed Rous County Council's General Manager as the Executive Officer for the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation until May 2025 / 2026. As part of this arrangement, Rous County Council also agreed to provide all of the NRJO's corporate services (including those of the executive officer) for an annual fee of \$135,000 (excluding GST) to be indexed annually.

General Managers' Advisory Committee

The General Managers of the NRJO's 7 member councils meet regularly (along with the Executive Officer) as the General Managers' Advisory Committee to provide the NRJO Board with advice, information and other support in relation to strategic and operational opportunities.

Working Groups

Various working groups are established with key experienced personnel from within each member council/associate member, which meet regularly throughout the Northern Rivers region.

Table 1: Northern Rivers Joint Organisation Working Groups 2022–23

Working Group	Meeting Frequency
NSW Water Directorate Executive Committee	Quarterly
North Coast Regional Leadership Executive	Quarterly
Water NSW Customer Advisory Group for the Coastal Valleys	Twice yearly
Procurement Committee	Quarterly
Northern Rivers Human Resources Interest Group	Quarterly
Risk Committee	Quarterly
Northern Safety Management Group	Quarterly
Northern Rivers Water Managers Group	Twice yearly
Northern Rivers Development and Construction Manuals Group	Quarterly
Natural Resource Management Group	Quarterly
North East Weight of Loads Group	Annually
Northern Rivers Local Emergency Management Committee	Quarterly
Northern Rivers Bush Fire Risk Management Committee	Quarterly
Regional GIS Users Group	Ad Hoc
Supervisors Group	Ad Hoc
Drinking Water Management System Implementation Group	Twice a year
Planners Group	Every two months
North East Waste Group	Quarterly
Northern Rivers Public and Environmental Health Forum	Quarterly
North East Region Discussion Group for Building Surveyors	Quarterly
OSMS Officer Forum	Yearly

PART 2: FLOOD RECOVERY

The Northern Rivers floods of February and March 2022 are among the nation's largest and most costly natural disasters. This means restoring our flood-blighted region is undoubtedly one of the largest reconstruction jobs ever to be undertaken in Australia.

In June 2023, the NSW Government declared the Northern Rivers a formal reconstruction area as part of its response to the floods. The reconstruction area includes the local government areas of all 7 NRJO member councils. The declaration means the NSW Reconstruction Authority can address issues delaying the rebuilding of the region as well as ensure prompt decision-making on reconstruction and recovery needs.

Additionally, the findings and recommendations of 2 separate flood inquiries were handed down early in the 2022–2023 reporting period.

The Northern Rivers community participated considerably in the 2 inquiries held in 2022 following NSW's catastrophic floods:

1. NSW Flood Inquiry – independent expert inquiry commissioned by the NSW Government.
The independent inquiry's final report was released in July 2022, making countless findings and 28 recommendations. The NSW Government at the time supported 6 of those recommendations, with the remaining 22 supported in principle but requiring further analysis and consultation.
2. NSW Legislative Council's Select Committee on the Response to Major Flooding Across NSW in 2022.
The final report of the NSW upper house's parliamentary inquiry was handed down in August 2022, making 21 findings and 37 recommendations. At the time, the NSW Government supported 17 of these recommendations, with the remaining 20 supported in principle but requiring further work regarding implementation.

Both inquiries' recommendations address the broad changes needed to how the Northern Rivers plans for, responds to, mitigates the impacts of and recovers from flood events in order to avoid a repeat of the 2022 flood disaster and the challenges during its aftermath.

All 65 recommendations from both flood inquiries received broad support from the Northern Rivers community. Our community has a deep desire to learn from these devastating events to improve its preparedness and ability to respond to and recover from floods in the future.

Working with all levels of government to ensure all these findings and recommendations are implemented in full throughout the region remained a key priority for the NRJO during 2022–2023.

PART 3: STRATEGIC REGIONAL PRIORITIES

In December 2022, the Board adopted the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation's (NRJO) latest Statement of Strategic Regional Priorities 2022–24 covering the current local government term.

Typically, the statement would cover the usual 4-year local government term. However, despite the latest local government elections being delayed until December 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the next elections will still take place in September 2024 as usual. As a result, the NRJO has a shorter than usual timeframe in which to make meaningful progress in relation to the current Board's adopted strategic regional priorities.

For the period 2022–23 through 2024–25, the NRJO has established 5 strategic regional priorities, with 13 related goals and 38 strategic actions for delivering on those priorities. The strategic regional priorities are:

1. Thriving, healthy and biodiverse natural environments
2. Improved community wellbeing now and into the future
3. A physically and digitally connected region
4. Innovative, sustainable energy, water and waste management
5. A diversified, prosperous and sustainable regional economy.

In preparing the current statement of strategic regional priorities, the Board requested a focus on flood recovery, homelessness issues and community wellbeing.

The NRJO's full Strategic Regional Priorities 2022–2024 statement is publicly available at <https://www.northernriversjo.nsw.gov.au/priorities-and-projects>.

Part 3 of this Annual Performance Statement reports on the NRJO's progress during the 2022–2023 period in implementing strategies and plans for delivering its strategic regional priorities. Numbering in the following reporting tables is linked to the 13 goals (and their related strategic actions) associated with each strategic regional priority. This numbering is not sequential as reporting reflects what was resourced by and a delivery focus of the NRJO in 2022–2023.

The NRJO's progress to date in implementing the strategic actions for delivering its strategic regional priorities (and their associated goals) varies considerably, with some well advanced and others yet to commence. Progress in relation to these strategic regional priorities was significantly hampered throughout 2022–2023 by the ongoing recovery efforts required following the February/March 2022 flood disaster.

Given the NRJO's budgetary and capacity constraints as well as the unusually short local government term, there will be a need to prioritise potential strategic actions from the Statement of Strategic Regional Priorities 2022–24 towards which meaningful progress can still be made during the current Board's tenure. It will also be necessary to continually identify potential strategic actions that could benefit from a review as to their relevance, suitability and effectiveness.

The NRJO's previous, inaugural statement of strategic regional priorities has essentially been carried over to form the current regional priorities along with their associated goals and strategic actions. As such, it is important to read this Annual Performance Statement in conjunction with previous annual

statements in order to track the NRJO's full progress in implementing strategies and plans for its strategic regional priorities.

The NRJO's Annual Performance Statements are publicly available at <https://www.northernriversjo.nsw.gov.au/about-us/compliance-and-reporting>.

Thriving, healthy and biodiverse natural environments

For the biodiversity and health of our waterways, habitats and wildlife to be protected and enhanced to deliver environmental, economic and recreational benefits for current and future generations of residents and visitors.

Goals	Progress during 2022–2023
<p>1. Enhanced biodiversity across the region, including an increase in the volume of healthy, stable, interconnected habitat and increased populations of threatened species.</p>	<p><i>Strategic Action 1.2 – advocate for changes to forestry policy and planning regulations to encourage native forestation.</i></p> <p>The NRJO continued (where applicable) to pursue engagement/promotion opportunities in relation to its agreed Native Forestation Advocacy Brief – especially regarding those solutions and actions sought to reform the regulatory and policy frameworks governing private native forestry in order to ensure it is undertaken in an ecologically sustainable manner across the Northern Rivers region.</p>
<p>2. Improved water quality and overall health of the Tweed, Richmond, Clarence, Brunswick and Wilson river systems to deliver positive environmental, recreational and economic outcomes.</p>	<p><i>PROGRAM – in 2019, the NRJO’s members comprising Ballina Shire, Byron Shire, Kyogle, Lismore City, Richmond Valley, Tweed Shire and Rous County councils endorsed the Northern Rivers Watershed Initiative, a landmark agreement to restore the Tweed, Brunswick, Richmond and Evans rivers.</i></p> <p>The NRJO continued to support the Northern Rivers Watershed Initiative by pursuing engagement/promotion opportunities in line with its agreed Watershed Initiative Advocacy Brief – especially regarding possible funding sources for the estimated \$150 million needed over a 10 to 15 year period to deliver the necessary on-the-ground works.</p>

Improved community wellbeing now and into the future

For our region to be able to offer its residents a range of affordable, appropriate housing choices and access to health care, mental health care, aged care and other services that enhance wellbeing in the changing climate.

Goals	Progress during 2022–2023
<p>4. Increased availability, affordability and choice of housing to meet the needs of current and projected Northern Rivers population.</p>	<p><i>Strategic Action 4.4 – partner with relevant government and non-government organisations to support increased access to social housing and homeless and crisis accommodation services across the region.</i></p> <p>For several years, the Northern Rivers has been in the grips of a housing and homelessness crisis – which has most recently been severely exacerbated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • extraordinary population growth during the COVID-19 pandemic, with thousands of people moving to the region from across the nation • devastation wreaked during the February/March 2022 flood disaster that displaced thousands of residents. <p>In-line with its Increased Social Housing Advocacy Brief, the NRJO continued to advocate for the reforms needed to improve housing outcomes and help address homelessness across the region – particularly those required to increase the supply of social housing and reduce homelessness levels well below the national average.</p>

A physically and digitally connected region

For our communities, businesses and visitors to be connected through a diverse range of safe, inclusive, low impact private and public transport options and high quality, reliable internet and mobile telecommunications services.

Goals	Progress during 2022–2023
<p>6. An efficient, safe and sustainable regional transport system that enables improved productivity, connectivity and social inclusion for businesses, residents and visitors.</p>	<p><i>PROJECT – an accelerated road repair program through doubling the funding of the Commonwealth Roads to Recovery Program and the NSW Government’s Regional Roads Repair Program.</i></p> <p>The NRJO continued (where applicable) to lobby the Australian and NSW Governments in line with its agreed Road Funding Advocacy Brief seeking a doubling of the funding provided under their 2 key roads programs, which is needed to bring the Northern Rivers region’s road infrastructure up to a satisfactory standard.</p> <p><i>PROJECT – transition from MyRoadInfo platform to Transport for NSW’s Live Traffic NSW service.</i></p> <p>Funded by the NRJO via regular contributions from its member councils, subscription to the Lismore City Council operated MyRoadInfo platform has provided Northern Rivers communities with up-to-date local road information for several years.</p> <p>Transport for NSW’s new, single administration system – OneRoad – went live for NSW councils in October 2022, allowing them to provide local road information (including closures and hazards) directly to the Live Traffic NSW platform. As a result, the MyRoadInfo website now directs the public to the Live Traffic NSW website.</p>
<p>7. Equitable access to fast, reliable, competitively priced digital connectivity and mobile phone coverage for businesses and residents across the region to enhance economic opportunities and liveability.</p>	<p><i>PROJECT – funding from Round 2 of the NSW Government’s Joint Organisation Capacity Building Fund was put towards an issues and opportunities report on the region’s mobile network coverage and service quality.</i></p> <p>A suitably qualified consultant was engaged in November 2022 to deliver the report, with the NRJO receiving the final <i>Mobile coverage issues, opportunities and advocacy: Priorities Report</i> in early 2023.</p> <p>Essentially, the report provides the results of independent mobile network testing undertaken across the Northern Rivers as well as an assessment</p>

Goals	Progress during 2022–2023
	<p>of other aspects of the region’s digital infrastructure.</p> <p>The report’s detailed findings and comprehensive data are being used as the basis for the NRJO’s advocacy efforts to secure prioritised investment in improved telecommunications infrastructure and services by the nation’s 3 mobile network operators as well as the Australian and NSW Governments.</p>

Innovative, sustainable energy, water and waste management

For our region to establish itself as a leader in renewable energy production; effective, sustainable water management; and innovative approaches to waste management to improve environmental and service delivery outcomes.

Goals	Progress during 2022–2023
<p>8. To strengthen our region’s emerging position as a NSW leader in renewable energy generation, storage and use, in accordance with widespread community support for reduced emissions and action on climate change.</p>	<p><u>Strategic actions 8.1 through 8.4 –</u></p> <p>The NRJO successfully applied for \$155,000 in NSW Government funding from the NSW Climate Change Fund’s Joint Organisation Net Zero Acceleration grants program to employ a fulltime project manager for 12 months to drive emission reduction initiatives across the region.</p> <p>The NRJO’s dedicated net zero project manager commenced on 13 March 2023.</p> <p>Along with setting a regional reduction goal for community emissions, the new project manager will focus on identifying regionally based carbon offsetting schemes as well as finding ways to increase uptake of electric transport options and reduce agriculture and transport emissions.</p> <p>A dedicated resource such as this allows the NRJO to build the capacity needed for its member councils to work together on a regional scale to achieve net zero as quickly as possible.</p> <p>Additional support for the project manager is being provided through the Sustain Energy Northern Rivers Group.</p>
<p>9. A secure and sustainable water supply to meet current and future needs of residents, businesses and visitors.</p>	<p><u>Strategic Action 9.1 – review and progress recommendations of Bulk Water Supply and Demand Management Strategies.</u></p> <p>In October 2022, NRJO associate member – and regional bulk water supply authority – Rous County Council adopted its new Regional Demand Management Plan 2023–2026.</p> <p>The plan aims to continue delivering comprehensive and effective water conservation outcomes throughout the region via economically, socially and environmentally sound water efficiency programs and other measures.</p>

Goals	Progress during 2022–2023
<p>10. Increased recycling, reduced landfill and improved, cost-effective service delivery through collaborative, innovative approaches to waste management.</p>	<p><i><u>Strategic Action 10.3</u> – advocate for a review of waste management regulations, including review of the waste levy to make funding available for local initiatives.</i></p> <p>The NRJO continued (where applicable) to lobby the NSW Government in line with its agreed Waste Levy Advocacy Brief seeking either the removal or redistribution of the mandatory contribution payable by local government waste facilities to the NSW Government.</p> <p>Redistribution or removal of the current Waste Levy will enable councils to invest those funds in innovative local/regional waste avoidance, recycling and other related initiatives.</p>
<p>11. Improved preparedness for and ability to respond to and recover from flooding events.</p>	<p><i><u>Strategic Action 11.1</u> – the NRJO continued to work with the Northern Rivers Reconstruction Corporation to ensure that projects and programs to rebuild our flood impacted communities are implemented quickly and are sustainable in the long term.</i></p> <p>In June 2023, the NSW Government declared the Northern Rivers a formal reconstruction area as part of its response to the floods. As a result, the previously formed Northern Rivers Reconstruction Corporation has now become part of the NSW Reconstruction Authority.</p> <p><i><u>Strategic Action 11.2</u> – the NRJO continued to collaborate with the CSIRO to ensure that the Northern Rivers Resilience Initiative delivers a holistic report on flood modelling, catchment management and community resilience, with the actions identified to reflect achievable priorities for the region.</i></p> <p><i><u>Strategic Action 11.3</u> – work with all levels of government to ensure that the recommendations from the 2022 Independent Flood Inquiry and the 2022 Parliamentary Inquiry into the Northern Rivers Floods are implemented throughout our region.</i></p> <p>The NRJO commenced lobbying almost 30 Commonwealth ministers (including the Prime Minister), NSW ministers (including the Premier) and local members of parliament, imploring them to ensure all recommendations from both flood inquiries are implemented for the Northern Rivers.</p>

Goals	Progress during 2022–2023
	<p>Despite the 65 recommendations of both inquiries being released in July/August 2022, throughout the reporting period significant uncertainty remained for the NRJO’s member councils and their communities about how all the recommendations will be implemented as well as the progress so far in implementing them.</p> <p>In its representations, the NRJO stressed that a true, multi-level of government response is required to ensure both inquiries’ recommendations are implemented in full throughout the region. Especially given they relate to a broad range of areas including emergency management arrangements, land management and planning, flood mitigation funding for local councils, working with and supporting Aboriginal communities, equipment and technology, research, capability building and local river health.</p>

A diversified, prosperous and sustainable regional economy

For our region to have a strong, diversified economy that provides increased employment and business opportunities and financial wellbeing for communities while protecting and maintaining our region's unique character.

Goals	Progress during 2022–2023
<p>12. A strong, diverse regional economy which provides local employment by attracting new enterprises, enabling existing enterprises to innovate and expand, and offering the conditions required for emerging industries to flourish.</p>	<p><i>PROJECT – business case for the establishment and operation of a specialist employee pool within the Northern Rivers region's councils.</i></p> <p>Councils in regional NSW are regularly impacted by skills shortages in key positions. Many councils have vacant roles for which they've advertised but are unsuccessful in finding candidates with the appropriate qualifications who are either based in regional NSW or willing to relocate to regional NSW.</p> <p>Funding from Round 2 of the NSW Government's Joint Organisation Capacity Building Fund was put towards a business case for the establishment and operation of a specialist employee pool for the NRJO's member councils.</p> <p>A suitably qualified consultant was engaged to undertake the study to determine whether the proposal for the NRJO to operate an employee pool of specialist staff to assist member councils was achievable. The project was overseen by a steering committee comprising representatives from 4 NRJO member councils as well as the NSW Department of Planning and Environment and Office of Local Government.</p> <p>Completed in February 2023, the project's final report ultimately found the proposal for the NRJO to operate a specialist employee pool for its member councils was not achievable.</p> <p>At the request of the Board, the NRJO's General Managers' Advisory Committee further considered the report's findings and whether any related opportunities could be realised. Unfortunately, the Committee acknowledged that prevailing circumstances were not ideal to progress a specialist employee pool – sighting tight labour market conditions, role requirements and flood recovery efforts as barriers to setting up this initiative for success.</p>
	<p><i>PROJECT – audit of available industrial and employment land.</i></p> <p>An adequate supply of suitably located and zoned industrial and employment land is considered vital to</p>

Goals	Progress during 2022–2023
	<p>ensuring and promoting the region’s economic growth and sustainability.</p> <p>Funding from Round 2 of the NSW Government’s Joint Organisation Capacity Building Fund has been allocated to undertake an audit of available industrial and employment land in the Northern Rivers region.</p> <p>The NRJO and its associate member Regional Development Australia – Northern Rivers are partnering on this project, with a steering committee comprising several member councils overseeing its delivery.</p> <p>The audit includes development of a database of available industrial and employment land in the region for prospective businesses and industry looking to move to the area, detailed forward projections of industrial or employment zoned land not yet developed, identifying infrastructure or other constraints stifling the land from being developed and brought to market, and an analysis of suitable land for consideration as employment lands in the Future North Coast Regional Plan.</p> <p>Work on the audit’s final report continued throughout the reporting period.</p> <p>Additional funding was also provided by the Northern Rivers Reconstruction Corporation to undertake the servicing and constraints analysis required as part of the audit to better understand the amount of land that is development ready as well as that which could potentially be utilised in the medium to longer term.</p>
<p>13. Increased contribution to the regional economy from tourism and dispersal of tourists across the region, while protecting the Northern Rivers’ unique character, environment and quality of life.</p>	<p><i><u>PROJECT</u> – Northern Rivers Rail Trail business case and strategy development.</i></p> <p>The NRJO – partnering with the Northern Rivers Rail Trail Association Inc – secured just over \$480,000 in NSW Government funding to develop a regional business case and strategy for the Northern Rivers Rail Trail’s economic development.</p> <p>Preparing this business case is a crucial step in ensuring member councils can complete and develop the rail trail so the whole region can reap its significant economic, social and environmental benefits.</p>

Goals	Progress during 2022–2023
	<p>The NSW Government grant through Stream One (Regional Significance) of the Regional NSW – Business Case and Strategy Development Fund includes funding for the NRJO to engage a dedicated project manager to oversee the business case and strategy’s preparation.</p> <p><i>Strategic Action 13.2 – deepen the relationship between the NRJO and Destination North Coast to facilitate input into regional branding and promotion.</i></p> <p>The NRJO continued its involvement with a collaborative partnership of regional businesses, industry bodies and government representatives who developed and are now utilising the Northern Rivers NSW brand.</p> <p>As the region recovers from the flooding disaster, the brand will play a major role in supporting advocacy efforts.</p> <p>The NRJO continues to play a key role as a member of both the brand’s Steering Committee and Finance Sub-Committee.</p>

PART 4: REGIONAL LEADERSHIP AND ADVOCACY

As the peak representative organisation for the Northern Rivers' local government areas, the NRJO is the recognised voice for its member councils in leading advocacy on issues of regional significance.

The joint organisation statutory model ensures member councils are well-positioned as part of a credible, united approach for dealing effectively with the NSW and Australian governments, their agencies, and other private or community organisations.

Whether its seeking funding support or financial assistance, lobbying for legislative or policy change, raising shared local government concerns, or generally advancing the region's interests – the NRJO is committed to advocating on behalf of its member councils.

During the 2022–2023 reporting period, the 2022 flood disaster (see Parts 2 and 3) continued to be a critical regional issue on which the NRJO was heavily involved in facilitating and leading advocacy to and cooperation with other levels of government.

In addition, the NRJO also led advocacy on the following issues of regional significance:

- **Disaster Dashboards**

The NRJO previously secured a grant through the Bushfire Community Recovery and Resilience Fund (Stream 2) to implement Disaster Dashboards for 2 years for 4 member councils (Ballina Shire, Lismore City, Kyogle and Richmond Valley). Byron Shire and Tweed Shire councils already had systems in place. Due to financial savings achieved in implementing the Disaster Dashboards, in 2022–23 the NRJO successfully applied for a grant variation to use the savings to fund an additional year of operation for the dashboards as well as the implementation of a community education/awareness program.

- **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) – Council of Mayors South East Queensland (CoMSEQ)**

The Northern Rivers region enjoys strong connections with and easy access to the South East Queensland region. Correspondence with the CoMSEQ commenced in June 2022 regarding the NRJO's possible involvement with its 2032 Regional Working Group for the Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games.

In December 2022 the Executive Officer met with the CoMSEQ's Chief Executive Officer, where potential options for the 2 organisations to partner and work together beyond just the 2032 Regional Working Group were canvassed. As a result, development of a potential MoU was proposed to provide a framework for ongoing collaboration and cooperation.

Development of the MoU between both parties is underway. Entering into the MoU ensures the NRJO and CoMSEQ can effectively collaborate and cooperate on mutually beneficial opportunities for both regions via a reciprocal associate membership arrangement.

- **Disaster Risk Reduction Fund (Local and Regional Risk Reduction Stream)**

In early 2023, the NRJO and 7 other joint organisations were granted funding from the Australian and NSW Governments' Disaster Risk Reduction Fund for a series of projects

aimed at preventing, mitigating and better managing natural disaster risks in regional NSW.

The NRJO secured \$592,550 in funding to complete its project (*Building knowledge and improving practice in disaster risk reduction in the Northern Rivers – a systemic approach*) by 30 June 2024. Each joint organisation is completing a similar project for their region.

As part of the fund's Local and Regional Risk Reduction Stream, a Regional Resilience Program Advisory Committee comprising the 8 joint organisations has been setup to build capacity, share resources and integrate knowledge so as to develop and embed leading practice in disaster risk reduction across regional NSW. Using funding included in the grant, a dedicated project officer has also been employed by the NRJO to support the project's delivery.

Local members of both the Federal and State Parliaments also continued to be apprised of the NRJO's advocacy positions, with regular updates provided. Meetings also occurred (where applicable) with members of the Federal and NSW oppositions, with the view to establishing these networks and relationships for the future.

The Chair and Executive Officer remained active members of the Joint Organisations' Executive Officer and Chairpersons Networks for Joint Organisations of Councils in NSW.

PART 5: INTER-GOVERNMENTAL CO-OPERATION

During 2022–2023, the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation (NRJO) continued to be proactive in identifying and taking up opportunities for inter-governmental co-operation on regional matters.

In addition to those opportunities reported in Parts 3 and 4 of this Annual Performance Statement, during the 2022-2023 period the NRJO built on existing, well-established networks and participated in a broad range of key government stakeholder groups – details of which include:

- close collaboration occurred with associate member Regional Development Australia – Northern Rivers via involvement in shared projects
- valuable relationships were developed with all NSW Government agency leads who attend the Regional Leadership Executive meetings
- an active role was taken in the sub-committees convened by Regional NSW in relation to community and service delivery, economic and workforce development, resilience and recovery as well COVID-19
- Regional NSW and the NSW Office of Local Government both provided regular updates to meetings of the NRJO’s General Managers’ Advisory Committee.

Northern Rivers Joint Organisation

GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 30 June 2023

Northern Rivers Joint Organisation

General purpose financial statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

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Northern Rivers Joint Organisation is constituted under the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) and has its principal place of business at:

Northern Rivers Joint Organisation
PO Box 239
Lismore NSW 2480

Through the use of the internet, we have ensured that our reporting is timely, complete and available at minimum cost. All press releases, financial statements and other information are publicly available on our website: www.northernriversjo.nsw.gov.au

Northern Rivers Joint Organisation

Statement by Members of the Board and Management

made pursuant to Section 413 (2c) of the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)*

The attached general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)* and the regulations made thereunder
- the Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and other pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board
- the Joint Organisations Supplement to the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

To the best of our knowledge and belief, these statements:

- present fairly Northern Rivers Joint Organisation operating result and financial position for the period
- accord with Northern Rivers Joint Organisation accounting and other records.

We are not aware of any matter that would render this report false or misleading in any way.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of NORTHERN RIVERS JOINT ORGANISATION made on:

.....



Sharon Cadwallader
Chairperson

30/10/2023



Kylie Thomas
Deputy Chairperson

31 / 10 / 2023



Phil Rudd
Executive Officer

30/10/2023

Northern Rivers Joint Organisation

Statement of Income and Accumulated Surplus for the year ended 30 June 2023

	Notes	2023 \$	2022 \$
Income			
Member council contributions	B1-1	251,300	201,100
User charges and fees	B1-2	16,863	33,725
Grants provided for operating purposes	B1-3	1,350,917	50,850
Interest and investment income	B1-4	10,808	1,341
Other income	B1-5	76,532	47,182
Total income		1,706,420	334,198
Expenses			
Employee benefits and on-costs	B2-1	532	80,532
Administrative expenses	B2-2	209,329	128,234
Project expenses	B2-3	861,419	393,834
Total expenses		1,071,280	602,600
Net result for the year		635,140	(268,402)
Accumulated surplus at 1 July		775,564	1,043,966
Accumulated surplus as at 30 June		1,410,704	775,564

The above Statement of Income and Accumulated Surplus should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Northern Rivers Joint Organisation

Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2023

	Notes	2023 \$	2022 \$
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	C1-1	1,489,193	836,701
Receivables	C1-2	106,895	4,948
Contract assets and contract cost assets	C1-3	-	11,583
Total current assets		1,596,088	853,232
Total assets		1,596,088	853,232
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Payables	C3-1	149,038	77,668
Contract liabilities	C3-2	36,346	-
Total current liabilities		185,384	77,668
Total liabilities		185,384	77,668
Net assets		1,410,704	775,564
EQUITY			
Accumulated surplus		1,410,704	775,564
Total equity		1,410,704	775,564

The above Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Northern Rivers Joint Organisation

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 30 June 2023

	Notes	2023 \$	2022 \$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts:			
Contributions from member councils		251,300	201,100
User charges and fees		16,863	32,775
Interest received		10,808	1,341
Grants		1,345,220	0
Other income (GST, Procurement rebate)		13,523	70,387
Payments:			
Employees and suppliers		(532)	(85,202)
Non-employee cash outflows		(982,126)	(545,578)
Other (GST)		(2,564)	
Net cash flows from operating activities		652,492	(325,177)
Net change in cash and cash equivalents		652,492	(325,178)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		836,701	1,161,879
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	C1-1	1,489,193	836,701

The above Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Northern Rivers Joint Organisation

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A. About the Joint Organisation and these financial statements

A1. Basis of preparation

These financial statements were authorised for issue by the Board of the Joint Organisation on dd/mm/2023. The Board has the power to amend and reissue these financial statements.

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below.

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures, the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) and Regulations, and the Joint Organisation Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting. Northern Rivers Joint Organisation (NRJO) is a not-for-profit entity. The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and are rounded to the nearest dollar.

a. New and amended standards adopted by NRJO

Not applicable.

b. Historical cost convention

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

c. Significant accounting estimates and judgements

The preparation of financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying NRJO's accounting policies. Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that may have a financial impact on NRJO and that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Accounting estimates and assumptions

NRJO makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year include:

None are applicable at this stage.

Significant judgements in applying NRJO accounting policies

None are applicable at this stage.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of associated GST, unless the GST incurred is not recoverable from the taxation authority. In this case it is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included with other receivables or payables in the Statement of Financial Position.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities that are recoverable from, or payable to the taxation authority are presented as operating cash flows.

B. Financial Performance

B1. Sources of Income

B1-1 Member Council contributions

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Ballina Shire Council	43,265	34,200
Byron Shire Council	38,600	30,100
Kyogle Council	25,250	20,500
Lismore City Council	42,300	34,600
Richmond Valley Council	32,435	26,000
Tweed Shire Council	69,450	55,700
Total member council contributions	251,300	201,100

Accounting policy

Contributions by member councils are recognised as revenue at the point in time when the amount to be paid for the period has been determined and communicated to councils. The contribution may be in the form of a cash payment or non-monetary contribution (which is recorded at its fair value).

The methodology for determining the contribution is:

- equal contributions by all member councils in order to perform the principal functions of delivering on strategic regional priorities, regional leadership and intergovernmental cooperation.
- contributions by participating member councils for other functions of enhancing strategic capacity and direct service delivery.

B1-2 User charges and fees

My Road Info	16,863	33,725
Total user charges and fees	16,863	33,725

Accounting policy

Revenue arising from user charges and fees is recognised when or as the performance obligation of providing the related service is completed and the customer receives the benefit of the goods / services being provided.

B1. Sources of Income

B1-3 Grants

	Operating		Capital	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Resilience NSW Disaster Dashboards Funding	6,750	50,850	-	-
Northern Rivers Reconstr. Corp (Indust. Lands)	20,000	-	-	-
Dept. of Premier and Cabinet (Northern NSW Flood Events)	550,000	-	-	-
Dept. of Regional NSW (Rail Trail)	384,892	-	-	-
Dept. Of Communities and Justice (DRRF)	296,275	-	-	-
Office of Energy & Climate Change (Net Zero)	93,000	-	-	-
Total grants	1,350,917	50,850	-	-
Comprising:				
- Commonwealth funding	-	-	-	-
- State funding	1,350,917	50,850	-	-
- Other funding	-	-	-	-
	1,350,917	50,850	-	-
Timing of revenue recognition				
Grants recognised over time	-	-	-	-
Grants recognised at a point in time	1,350,917	50,850	-	-
Total grants	1,350,917	50,850	-	-

Accounting policy

Grants - enforceable agreement with sufficiently specific performance obligations

Grant revenue arising from an agreement which is enforceable and contains sufficiently specific performance obligations is recognised as or when control of each performance obligations is transferred.

The performance obligations vary according to the agreement but include performance obligations such as dashboard design and build, dashboard hosting and media campaign.

Performance obligations may be satisfied either at a point in time or over time and this is reflected in the revenue recognition pattern. Point in time recognition occurs when the beneficiary obtains control of the goods / services at a single time (e.g. completion of the project when a report / outcome is provided), whereas over time recognition is where the control of the services is ongoing throughout the project (e.g. provision of community health services through the year).

Where control is transferred over time, generally the input methods of costs or time incurred are deemed to be the most appropriate methods to reflect the transfer of benefit.

Capital grants

Capital grants received under an enforceable contract for the acquisition or construction of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment to identified specifications which will be under NRJO's control on completion are recognised as revenue as and when the obligation to construct or purchase is completed.

For construction projects, this is generally as the construction progresses in accordance with costs incurred since this is deemed to be the most appropriate measure of the completeness of the construction project.

For acquisitions of assets, the revenue is recognised when the asset is acquired and controlled by NRJO.

Other grants

Assets (e.g. cash) received from other grants are recognised at fair value when the asset is received. NRJO considers whether there are any related liability or equity items associated with the asset which are recognised in accordance with the relevant accounting standard.

Once the assets and liabilities have been recognised then income is recognised for any remaining asset value at the time that the asset is received

B1-4 Interest and investment income

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Interest on financial assets measured at amortised cost	10,808	1,341
Total interest and investment income	10,808	1,341

Accounting policy

Interest and investment income is recognised using the effective interest rate at the date that interest is earned.

B1-5 Other income

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Procurement Rebates	44,129	47,182
Workers Compensation Adjustment Income	1,130	-
Support Services Income - Public Works	6,272	-
Funding Contributions	25,000	-
Total other income	76,532	47,182

Accounting policy

Other income is recorded when the payment is due, the value of the payment is notified, or the payment is received, whichever occurs first.

B2. Costs of providing services

B2-1 Employee benefits and on costs

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Salaries and wages	-	66,369
Travel	281	741
Employee leave entitlements	-	3,713
Superannuation	176	5,941
Workers' compensation insurance	75	1,951
Other	-	1,817
Total employee costs expensed	532	80,532

Accounting policy

Employee benefit expenses

Employee benefit expenses are recorded when the service has been provided by the employee.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense as they become payable. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that a cash refund or a reduction in the future payments is available.

B2-2 Administrative expenses

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Contractor and consultancy costs	188,585	102,806
Board costs	11,716	9,818
Catering	452	821
Office expenses	4,575	2,789
Training and professional development	4,000	12,000
Total administration expenses	209,329	128,234

Accounting Policy

Administrative expenses

Administrative expenses are recorded on an accruals basis as NRJO receives the goods or services.

B2-3 Project expenses

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Contractor and project contributions	861,419	393,834
Total project expenses	861,419	393,834

Accounting policy

Project expenses

Project expenses are recorded on an accruals basis as NRJO receives the goods or services.

C. Financial Position

C1. Assets we manage

C1-1 Cash and cash equivalents

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Cash at bank and on hand	346,512	6,828
Deposits at call	1,142,681	829,873
	<u>1,489,193</u>	<u>836,701</u>

Restricted cash and cash equivalents

External restrictions	733,534	207,168
Unrestricted	755,659	629,533
	<u>1,489,193</u>	<u>836,701</u>

Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents

Total cash and cash equivalents per Statement of Financial Position	1,489,193	836,701
Balances as per Statement of Cash Flows	<u>1,489,193</u>	<u>836,701</u>

Accounting policy

For Statement of Cash Flow presentation purposes, cash and cash equivalents include: cash on hand; deposits held at call with financial institutions; other short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value; and bank overdrafts.

C1-2 Receivables

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Trade debtors	88,319	1,045
GST receivable	18,576	3,903
Total	<u>106,895</u>	<u>4,948</u>
Net receivables	<u>106,895</u>	<u>4,948</u>

Accounting policy

Receivables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. Receivables are generally due for settlement within 30 days.

Impairment of receivables is assessed using the simplified expected credit loss model where lifetime credit losses are recorded on initial recognition. To measure the expected credit losses, debtors have been grouped based on shared credit risk characteristics and the days past due.

C1-3 Contract assets and Contract cost assets

		2023	2022
		\$	\$
Contract assets		-	11,583
	(a)	<u>-</u>	<u>11,583</u>
a. Contract assets			
Resilience NSW Disaster Dashboards		-	11,583
		<u>-</u>	<u>11,583</u>

Accounting policy

Contract assets

Contract assets represent NRJO's right to payment in exchange for goods or services the NRJO has transferred to a customer when that right is conditional on something other than the passage of time.

Contract assets arise when the amounts billed to customers are based on the achievement of various milestones established in the contract and therefore the amounts recognised as revenue in a given period do not necessarily coincide with the amounts billed to or certified by the customer.

Once an invoice or payment claim is raised or the relevant milestone is reached, the NRJO recognises a receivable.

C3. Liabilities of the joint organisation

C3-1 Payables

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Trade payables	122,238	7,704
Accrued expenses	26,800	69,964
Total payables	149,038	77,668

Accounting policy

NRJO measures all financial liabilities initially at fair value less transaction costs; subsequently financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

Trade payables represent liabilities for goods and services provided to NRJO prior to the end of financial period that are unpaid. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

C3-2 Contract liabilities

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Funds received prior to performance obligation being satisfied (upfront payments) – AASB 15 (ii)	36,346	-
Total contract liabilities	36,346	-

- (i) The contract liability relates to funds received prior to the revenue recognition criteria in AASB 15 being satisfied since the performance obligations are ongoing.

Accounting policy

When an amount of consideration is received from a customer / fund provider prior to NRJO transferring a good or service to the customer, NRJO presents the funds which exceed revenue recognised as a contract liability.

D. Risks and accounting uncertainties

D1. Financial risk management

Risk management

NRJO's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks, including credit risk, liquidity risk, and interest rate risk. Financial risk management is carried out by the finance team under policies approved by the NRJO Board.

The fair value of receivables, investments and financial liabilities approximates the carrying amount.

D2. Contingencies

NRJO is a member of Statewide Mutual, a mutual pool scheme providing liability insurance to local government.

Membership includes the potential to share in either the net assets or liabilities of the fund depending on its past performance. The NRJO's share of the net assets or liabilities reflects the NRJO's contributions to the pool and the result of insurance claims within each of the fund years.

The future realisation and finalisation of claims incurred but not reported to 30 June 2023 may result in future liabilities or benefits as a result of past events that NRJO will be required to fund or share respectively.

E. People and relationships

E1. Related party disclosures

E1-1 Key management personnel

Key management personnel (KMP) of NRJO are those persons having the authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of NRJO, directly or indirectly.

The aggregate amount of KMP compensation included in employee expenses is \$39,491 (2022: \$90,072)

Other transactions with KMP and their related parties

There were no other transactions between NRJO and the KMP and their related parties (2022:nil).

E1-2 Other related parties

There were no other transactions between NRJO and the KMP and their related parties (2022:nil).

E2. Other relationships

E2-1 Audit fees

	2023	2022
Auditors of NRJO – NSW Auditor-General:	\$	\$
Audit of financial statements	17,800	12,160
Total fees paid or payable to the Auditor-General	17,800	12,160

F. Other matters

F1. Events occurring after reporting date

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Joint Organisation or the results of those operations.

End of the audited financial statements

PART 7: OTHER STATUTORY INFORMATION

Annual Performance Statement Requirement	Statutory Reference	Relevant 2022–2023 Statutory Information
Must contain a statement detailing the action taken by the JO in relation to any issue raised by the Anti-slavery Commissioner during the year concerning the operations of the JO and identified by the Commissioner as being a significant issue.	<i>Local Government Act 1993</i> (Act) s 428(4)(c)	Nil
Must contain a statement of steps taken to ensure that goods and services procured by and for the JO during the year were not the product of modern slavery within the meaning of the <i>Modern Slavery Act 2018</i> .	Act s 428(4)(d)	Nil
Details, including purpose of overseas visits by board members, Executive Officer or other persons representing the JO (including visits sponsored by other organisations).	<i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i> (Reg) cl 217(1)(a)	Nil
<p>Total cost during the year of the payment of expenses of, and the provision of facilities to board members in relation to their functions.</p> <p>Identify separate details on the total cost of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provision of dedicated office equipment allocated to board members • telephone calls made by board members • attendance of board members at conferences and seminars • interstate visits by board members, including transport, accommodation and other out-of-pocket travelling expenses • overseas visits by board members, including transport, 	Reg cl 217(1)(a1)(i), (ii), (iii), (v), (vi), (vii), (viii)	Meeting Catering \$452.00 Travel Expenses \$1,469.94 Conference/Seminars \$227.27

Annual Performance Statement Requirement	Statutory Reference	Relevant 2022–2023 Statutory Information
accommodation and other out-of-pocket travelling expenses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • expenses of any spouse, partner or other person who accompanied a board member in the performance of his or her civic functions, being expenses payable in accordance with the Guidelines for the payment of expenses and the provision of facilities for board members • expenses involved in the provision of care for a child of, or an immediate family member of, a board member. 		
Details of each contract awarded (other than employment contracts & contracts less than \$150,000) including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • name of contractor • nature of goods or services supplied • total amount payable. 	Reg cl 217(1)(a2)(i), (ii)	Nil
Summary of the amounts incurred by the JO in relation to legal proceedings including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • amounts incurred by JO in relation to proceedings taken by or against the JO (including out of court settlements) • summary of the state of the progress of each legal proceeding and (if finalised) the result. 	Reg cl 217(1)(a3)	Nil
Total amount contributed or otherwise granted to financially assist others.	Reg cl 217(1)(a5) & <i>Local Government Act 1993 (Act) s 356</i>	Nil
Statement of all external bodies that exercised functions delegated by the JO.	Reg cl 217(1)(a6)	Nil
Statement of all corporations, partnerships, trusts, joint ventures,	Reg cl 217(1)(a7)	Nil

Annual Performance Statement Requirement	Statutory Reference	Relevant 2022–2023 Statutory Information
<p>contribution or salary sacrifice to any superannuation scheme to which any of them may be a contributor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> total value of any non-cash benefits for which any of them may elect under the package total amount payable by way of fringe benefits tax for any such non-cash benefits. 		
<p>Statement of total number of persons who performed paid work on Wednesday 23 November 2022, including, in separate statements, total number of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> persons employed by the JO on a permanent full-time, permanent part-time or casual basis or under a fixed-term contract persons employed by the JO as senior staff members, persons engaged by the JO, under a contract or other arrangement with the person’s employer, wholly or principally for the labour of the person persons supplied to the JO, under a contract or other arrangement with the person’s employer, as an apprentice or trainee. 	Reg cl 217 (1)(d) (i),(ii),(iii),(iv)	Nil – note date is previous Financial Year
Report on all capital works projects is considered best practice.	OLG Capital Expenditure Guidelines	Nil
Information included on government information public access activity.	<p><i>Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009, s 125(1)</i></p> <p><i>Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2018, cl 8, Schedule 2</i></p>	Nil
Information included on public interest disclosure activity.	<i>Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994, s 31</i>	Nil

Annual Performance Statement Requirement	Statutory Reference	Relevant 2022–2023 Statutory Information
syndicates or other bodies in which the JO held a controlling interest.		
Statement of all corporations, partnerships, trusts, joint ventures, syndicates or other bodies (whether or not incorporated) in which the JO participated during the year.	Reg cl 217(1)(a8)	Nil
Statement of activities undertaken to implement its EEO management plan.	Reg cl 217(1)(a9)	Nil
<p>Statement of the total remuneration package of the Executive Officer including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • total value of the salary component of the package • total amount of any bonus, performance or other payments that do not form part of the salary component • total amount payable by way of the employer’s contribution or salary sacrifice to any superannuation scheme to which the Executive Officer may be a contributor • total value of any non-cash benefits for which the Executive Officer may elect under the package • total amount payable by way of fringe benefits tax for any such non-cash benefits. 	Reg cl 217(1)(b)(i), (ii), (iii), (iv), (v)	<p>Executive Officer is no longer receiving a remuneration package and instead a Service Level Agreement has been established between NRJO and Rous County Council for Admin, Finance, Governance and Exec Officer Services.</p> <p>Value of Service Agreement is \$135K (ex GST) per financial year.</p>
<p>Statement of the total remuneration packages of all senior staff members, expressed as the total (not of the individual members) including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • total value of salary components of their packages • total amount of any bonus, performance or other payments that do not form part of salary components of their packages • total amount payable by the JO by way of the employer’s 	Reg, cl 217(1)(c)(i), (ii), (iii), (iv), (v)	Nil

Annual Performance Statement Requirement	Statutory Reference	Relevant 2022–2023 Statutory Information
	<i>Public Interest Disclosures Regulation 2011, cl 4</i>	

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